

amendments would allow NIFA to finance housing infrastructure for affordable housing developments, which is why this amendment is relevant and germane. This is to meet a need for financing smaller areas, infill, rural areas in need of housing but which do not have the economies of scale or financial wherewithal to take advantage of existing infrastructure tools, like SIDs. It also allows the NIFA to serve as a guarantor of loans for the limited purposes of the NIFA Fund Act. In other words, if NIFA could make the loan itself, it could also act as the guarantor if someone else made the loan. And it also allows NIFA to have grant authority to make grants for only those purposes for which NIFA exists. In other words, it gives another way in which NIFA could do the functions that we've already given to it. Is NIFA a state agency? No, it's not. Are these promises the state's promises? No, they are not. It is an independent instrumentality which exists basically because of a niche in the federal tax code and there is no way that NIFA can create a liability for the state of Nebraska. The Department of Economic Development treated this as a major agenda item for the year. The committee reported it out and it is germane because it also talks about affordable housing. I would ask for the adoption of the amendment. It has been before you, at least in the Journal, for a rather long time and I hope that you'll support this amendment. I'll be happy to answer questions.

SENATOR CROSBY: Discussion on the Landis amendment? Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Madam President. This is a bill that I heard when I was on the committee with Senator Landis in Banking. It has very strong support. I think it fits well with the intent of the bill and I would rise in support of the amendment.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Wesely. There are no further lights. Senator Landis, would you like to close on your amendment?

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, no.

SENATOR CROSBY: He waives closing. The question is the adoption of the Landis amendment to LB 1322. All those in favor vote aye, opposed no. We're voting on the Landis amendment. Have you all voted? Record, please.